The UN General Assembly has adopted a range of measures to deal with international terrorism, including an annual debate on the issue and adoption of a resolution on Measures to Eliminate Terrorism. Twelve Conventions dealing with specific aspects of terrorism have been adopted. The UN Security Council has adopted resolutions, notably UNSCR 1373, on September 28, 2001 which has put in place a series of mandatory measures, to combat international terrorism.

India's shift from non-aligned stand

1897. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has said that india is a natural ally of US;

(b) if so, whether there is a shift from our non-aligned stand towards NATO and US; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The leaders of both India and the United States have stated that the two countries are natural allies, based on shared democratic values, many common interests and growing opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation on bilateral and international issues.

(b) and (c) India's growing relations with the United States is neither the result of nor has caused any change in the well-established principles of India's foreign policy. India's relations with the United States is also not at the expense of time tested and traditionally close friendship with other countries.

Justification for India's support to American action

1898. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that among the Talibans, a huge chunk of them are actually Pakistanis, sponsored and trained by the America's CIA; and